

Notice of Public Meeting of a Public Body
Sections 7.6, 7.7.4 and 7.9.1
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE –
Governor's Forest Health Council

Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431, notice is hereby given to the members of the Forest Health Council and to the general public that the **Forest Health Council** will hold a meeting open to the public:

July 8th, 2010 9am – 4pm
Babbitt Administrative Center
Building 51, Knowles Drive
Northern Arizona University
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Minutes (Draft)

Meeting Objective: To identify next steps with respect to the June FHC meeting, discuss the current status of the Statewide Assessment and Strategy, distribute the Land Use Paper and discuss distribution, initiate discussions regarding strategic restoration partnerships, receive information on and discuss recent Flagstaff fires, and visit recent/ongoing forest treatments in the Flagstaff area.

1) Call to Order ~ 9:07a.m. Co-Chair, Ethan Aumack

Members Present:

Co-Chair Ethan Aumack, Steve Rosenstock, Steve Gatewood, Scott Hunt, Edward Smith for Brenda Burman, Larry Stephenson for Mark Herrington, Don Berry, Christine Dawe for Tom Klabunde, Paul Summerfelt for Mayor Presler, Wally Covington, Darryl Willis

Members via Tele-Conference

Co-Chair Molly Pitts, Kevin Kinsall, Tom Klabunde, Todd Schulke

Members Absent:

Rob Davis, Don Falk, John Metzger, Mike Neal, Ron Williams

Public:

Marcus Selig (Grand Canyon Trust), Matt Williamson (Grand Canyon Trust), Ron Jachimowicz (Paragon Equipment), Glen Buettner (AZ State Fire), Bruce Greco (ERI), Diane Vosick (ERI), Heather Provencio, (Coconino National Forest), Pete Fule, (NAU|ERI), Melanie Lawrence (Greater Flagstaff Forest Partnership), Krista Olson-Blundell (ADOC Staff)

2) Approval of the Minutes from the June FHC Meeting ~ Approved

3) Summary of Council Business Since Last FHC Meeting ~ Ethan Aumack and Molly Pitts

- Molly P. and Ethan A. will meet with Kevin Kinsall the new Natural Resources Policy Advisor to Governor Brewer at the end of July to discuss the FHC.
- Ethan stated and Molly concurred that there was not much else to report since the June council meeting

4) Review of June FHC Meeting and Identification of Next Steps ~ Molly Pitts

- Council conveyed many compliments to Molly and the job she did setting up the June meeting and field trip.
- Molly advised that there will be another White Mountain field trip in August for groups working on FFRI.

SG: Encouraged anyone that was not able to make the June trip with FHC to attend due to the excellent information shared.

LS: Presentation from Apache tribe was informative and we should continue to encourage participation on an ongoing basis from Indian reservations. Council is still seeking that segment of representation for membership.

SR: Compliments great trip to Molly. There are still some sights that may be of value to see in the future.

DB: FFRI people should definitely see- learn from mistakes made and successes achieved. FS fortunate to have Jim Pitts- excellent at what he does.

5) State Forestry Division

- Statewide Assessment and Strategy Project Update ~ Steve Gatewood and Glen Buettner
 - Assessment submitted 6/18.
 - Appreciate council as a body and individual input.
 - Updates are still being made.
 - Region 3 has to end of July to forward final document after feedback is implemented
 - Generally, initial feedback was positive, a few requests were made for clarification of terms, missing section in strategy, FS wants more detail in actionable and measurable standards, need to clarify references to FIA report 2002 and acknowledge alignment with USDA 5 year strategy.
 - Noted a lack of focus, a lot of ground covered in a broad sense, what identified highest priorities of state forestry, not a deal breaker though these are just comments --overall impressed by document.
 - Special thank you to Bruce, Ed, ERI, Steve G. and Scott from Glen B.

- Christine Dawe from FS said it was a good document with a lot of information which explores next steps and conclusions.

SG: Need to discuss how FHC can merge this w/ Statewide Strategy—are there sections that organizations can take a role in?

- Two pieces of strategy
 - Arizona Stakeholders
 - Need stakeholders for collaboration- financial support
 - Arizona Forestry Division
 - Limited Resources- both manpower and money

EA: Can there be addendums?

- It will be appropriate for FHC to cross walk statewide strategy, executive order, and this document to commit council priorities.

GB: Yes there will be addendums and the Farm Bill requires it is updated every 5 years at a minimum.

SG: In next steps sections, could add in reference to FHC as forum to help prioritize- fall/spring process.

SH: FHC is critical in Arizona steering—this is a dynamic document --ever changing.

- They are required to make annual reports internally identifying progress- first being due @Oct/Nov '11
- Scott Hunt gave a big thank you and congratulations to Glen B. for all his hard work on this document.
- Will spend time working on fleshing out the Executive Summary now.

WC: How does plan compare to others?

- Page 97 has comparison chart to other states
- Arizona was the only to indicate 'culture' as one of (7) critical issues.
- Plans in West are different, there was no specific format that had to be followed, made it difficult

LS: Implementation plan is logical next step

EA: Asked FHC if they agree to participate as a whole

- It is consistent w/ Gov's EO.
- State Forestry needs assistance & expertise to identify priorities and implement.
- Council alone can't do it but can be one resource agent along with other organizations.
- Make at "front end" what FHC role will mission should be to cross walk process to Statewide Strategy/EO as has been discussed and generally agreed upon due to the synergy between them.

EA: Proposed meaningful cross walk discussion in September on this document. FHC needs to drill down recommendations. Team assembled to get started to have organized for September meeting to allow for meaningful discussions and actions. Lead: Steve G. to organize, Steve R., Wally C., Ethan A., Larry S., Glen B., Molly P.

6) FFRI Update (Add-on)~ Edward Smith

- Last meeting was in Payson.
- Keeping landscape strategy moving along in prep for NEPA document –full implementation.
- Ratified Charter
 - Operational Norms
 - Rules & Regulations
- Effort on MOU- still working it.
- New facilitator has been hired.
- FS staffing up-- new forest ecologist joining team.
- Forest service has RFI on economies of the project.
- Agenda for September meeting to review the White Mtn. Stewardship contract to somehow make them come together with FFRI—an integration of efforts.

7) Distribution of Land Use Paper and Next Steps ~ Ethan Aumack

- Handed out printed copy of to FHC members in attendance.
- Electronic copies available on website.
- Will send to wider distribution list.
- Ethan A. will work with CS to get to CSA.
- Don B. to get to western counties of WIR.

8) Identification of Partners Capable of Assisting in Restoration Efforts ~ FHC Members

- Recognize there is limited funding and this is a means to gain funding.
- Interested in creative partnerships that would benefit from forest restoration- win-win for both entities, i.e., energy, water, insurance companies.
- Meeting scheduled on 7/21 in Holbrook to discuss how to approach—perceived as a huge opportunity.

9) Flagstaff Fires Update ~ Heather Provencio, Coconino National Forest and Paul Summerfelt, Flagstaff Fire Department

- A slide presentation was given and a handout provided regarding the Hardy & Schultz fires. A copy of the presentation will be posted.

10) Ecological Context for the Schultz Fire ~ Pete Fule, Northern Arizona University Ecological Restoration Institute

- A presentation and handout were given on the fire with records to the ecological fall-out over time. A copy of the presentation will be posted.

11) Meeting Schedule | Location | Other

- a. September 9th- Babbitt Administration Center, NAU, Flagstaff, AZ
- b. A card was passed around for all to sign to send to Vicki C. in Washington D.C thanking her for her service to FHC and wishing success in her new position.

12) Call to the Public ~ No comment

This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not on the agenda. Therefore, action taken as results of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further considerations and decisions at a later date.

13) Field Trip 12:30-4:00p.m.:

- Recent/ongoing forest restoration, fuels reduction, and wildlife-focused efforts in the Flagstaff area.

Dated this July 27th, 2010
Governor's Forest Health Council
<http://www.governor.state.az.us/FHC/>

CO-CHAIRS

Ethan Aumack – Grand Canyon Trust

Molly Pitts – Northern Arizona Wood Products Association